# Weekly National Intelligencer.

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#### Weekly National Intelligencer.

BY GALES & SEATON.

JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR. The subscription price of this paper for a year is Two DOLLARS, payable in advance.

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#### "THE TRUE POLICY."

We yesterday animadverted on that inconsiderateness which often leads a heady and "vaulting" political radicalism to overleap itself, and to postpone, if not to defeat, by the crudity of its projects, the realization of the wishes it professes to have at heart. Any admenitions of this kind, coming from "conservative" quarters, are commonly dismissed by a certain class of journals as the inspirations of timidity, or perhaps they are lampooned, in the favorits vernacular which forms so large a part of The platform declares unequivocally in favor of the Union. the radical vocabulary, as covert suggestions in the interest of slavery and its perpetuation; for, whether it be a good or a bad sign, certain it is that the extreme representatives of this political ultraism rarely fail to act and speak as though they thought it incompatible with their pretensions to superier illumination on all possible topics of publie concern, to admit that any body can differ from them without being more or less a friend to that institution which concentrates all their hatred. Thus it happens that they dispense with all argument on these subjects by making persiftage or intered by a sc-called "conservative" paper.

To these who are afflicted with this species of political opthalmia, disqualifying them for the perception and discovery of any wholesome truths propounded on certain questions of current political concern by "old fogics," we commend the sire the co operation of all who will unite with us for the following thoughtful observations of the New York their sympathizers, as well as all platforms which seek or Times, a Republican paper which we believe does tend to embroil the people or States and incite treason, and array resistance to law any where, and whose avowed not yet labor under any reproach of being "proslavery." Under the head of "Masterly Inactivity the True Civil Policy Toward Slavery," our contemperary holds this language in its number of November 27th:

"There is a class of men who stick to the idea that something positive must be done by the Federal Govern ment to end slavery. Even the issue of the emancipation the object of the resolution.

"That, as the only legitimate purpose for which the proclamation, a military measure for military ends solely, does not satisfy them. They want civil power exercised, and would gladly have even a breaking down of State lines, and a reconstruction of the Government itself, as the only effectual means of destroying the institution of their spe-

"Now we, too, claim a good hearty hatred of slavery. We are as auxious as any to see it under the sod, bejond ous eacrifice to get it there. Seeing that it is dying, we so to are quite content to let it die quietly, without any attempt to pull the house down about its ears and our own ears This seems to us to be a very absurd sort of impatienceprompted by giddy passion rather than sober reason.

"But how do we know slavery is dying? We know it from the unanimous testimony of all personal observers of South, however friendly he may be to the institution, who pretends that there is any chance whatever of its being

aved if present causes continue. Two things are killing it.
"The first is the wear and tear of the war. Military operations always tend to disjoint and break up, within their ecope, all the relations of society. They inevitably remit, to a greater or less extent, the social man to a state Inter arma leges silent. This is felt in every social connexion, even the closest and strongest; for they all are, more or less, dependent on civil law. But it must be felt particularly in that connexion which of all others is the most forced and arbitrary—the connexion between master and slave. Liberty is a natural instinct. eaged bird is not surer to fly through the parted wirethe slave, in his ordinary condition, from the broken chain-and the chain must be broken when the civil law nich sloue gives its strength, passes away. There are men who complain of the anti-slavery war policy of the deut. A policy that was any thing else would not be a war policy at all. The war upon the rebellious slaveholding people of necessity involves an interruption of their laws; and unless the advancing army should make good this absence of civil rule by applying its own military power to keeping watch and ward over the slaves, and thus abandon its preper military business the result is goes on. Abraham Lincoln might be as much attached to slavery as Jeff. Davis himself, and make the stacked to itable that the institution must melt away as the war slavery as Jeff. Davis himself, and yet no human sagacity would enable him to fight Jeff. Davis honestly and effectually without mortal injury to slavery. It is the war which kills slavery, and not the man who leads the war.

"The other destroying agency is open discussion. Slavery can live only in silence. There is a deadly antagonism between itself and free speech. Where the one ex-ists the other cannot. The vitality of the one rests in pure force, and force and reason never agree. It always has been, and always will be, that force must either suppress reason or reason will subvert force. The discussion very is as free now in New Orleans as in New York. It is no within the province of the Military Governor, Shepley, to interfere with fair discussion there than it is within the rightful power of the civil Governor, Seymour, to init here. And in the Border States, where the civil laws still prevail, hostility to the reb-llion has excited such a dicential action with slavery as its cause that by general consent perfect freedom is allowed in arguing sgainst the institution. The consequence of this freedom has been that Missouri has already determined to abolish it; Maryland and Delaware bave put declared emancipa tionists in places of their highest trusts by unprecedented majorities; and Kentucky is visibly casting about to see how she can best rid herself of the curse. "We say, then, that even if the National Government

had the right to institute new civil measures against slavery, it would not be necessary. The unavoidable military operations of the war, and the free discussion which is sure to attend it, are enough of themselves to break down the institution The Government has simply to stand

quiet and let these agencies work. But we go further, and say that any further interference would not only be superfluous, but positively mis chievous. To insure that slavery, when it dies, shall never rise again, you have got to depend largely upon the disposition of the Southern people. That disposition should not It can't help becoming so if, as some propose, their States are reduced to the condition of mere Territorial dependencies. Americans can never be satisfied to be underlings. Whatever the fortunes of war egitimately bring, they are sensible enough to submit to; but it is not in their spirit to consent to any permanent degradation. Undertake to deprive them permanently of their civil rights, and you simply make them your permaenemies. Territorialize them because you hate slavery, and the inevitable effect will be that you will only make them love slavery the more, and hate you the more This could not always continue. State rights, sooner or later, would have to be restored. We don't believe that the keeping those States in a Perritorial condition would be abandoned as an insufferable anomaly in our system of Government. State rights once restored, the people, maddened by the thrail that had been put upon them, would be very likely to vindicate these rights by rehabilitating sinvery. Every incentive of high pride and every impulse of

low spite would combine to urge this; and the National

Government would have no legitimate way of preventing it.
"It will never do to try to give slavery its lasting quietus by mere arbitrary force. To secure this we have got to rely in no small measure upon resson. We must never forget that just as force is the natural ally of slavery, just so reason is the natural ally of freedom. When the South has been overcome in fair fight, we must give its reason a fair chance to assert itself. Military authority over each reclaimed State should last until the majority of the people have made up their mind to resume, in good faith, their old relations to the Government, and have had a fair opportunity to canvass how that resumption shall best be inaugurated. Of course, the machinery of but whenever there is sound reason to believe that a fair oyal majority of the State want it, let them have it; and that too without imposing any conditions concerning slavery. If this just and rational policy is faithfully carried out, and no arbitrary issues are foisted in to impose a sense of subordination, we have not a doubt that every Slave State will follow the emancipating policy which the Border States, of their own accord, have already entered upon with such decision. Even if loyal duty don't promp it, interest will. Fir slavery, after having been cripple as it has by the war, even if it could live, would only be an incumbrance. But it can't live : it is already half dead Let the loyal men of the South finish it and bury it in their

#### THE WAR DEMOCRATS OF THE NORTHWEST.

The Conference of War Democrats, held at Chicago on Wednesday last, was attended by some forty persons, repesenting the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. A declaration of principles was adopted, and measures taken looking to a national organization. denies that the Constitution affords any pretext for seces sion, providing, on the contrary, a peaceful remedy for every grievance that may occur in any part of the country; denounces the rebellion, and calls upon the Adminis tration to employ all the power of the nation for its suppression; affirms continued devotion to the Monroe dec trine of non-intervention in the affairs of this continent by European nations; applauds the valor and unselfish pa triotism of our soldiers; declares in favor of the colonization of the blacks freed by the war at the earliest practicable period; and protests against the incorporation of the negro contingent upon the peace establishment of the Federal army, holding that the disbandment of that contingent, upon the conclusion of hostilities, is "demanded by every consideration of wise and provident statesmanship vective their chief reply to all dissent from the | The platform declares also that our authorities, both Nawisdom of their counsels, when this dissent is ut- tional and State, should be held to a strict accountability for any want of vigor or good faith in the discharge of their duties. The declaration of princ ples closes as follows:

"That during the existence of this rebellion to destroy the Union, we hereby declare that the preservation of the Union under the Constitution shall be the paramount issue with us, and we hereby proclaim fellowship with and de-

or secret purpose, if consummated, must end in disunion.
"That this meeting recommend the War Democracy of the several States to meet in Delegate National Convention at Cincinnati, on the first Wednesday in May, 1864, or the purpose of taking such action as they think best touch ing the nomination of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, and determine other matters as they may think proper, and that there be a National Executive Committee of one from each State, to promote

war may be waged is to suppress the rebellion, the war must cease as soon as the rebellion is at an end, and we would hail with joy any indication by the people of a rebellious State to return to their allegiance, yet we shall not regret it slavery talls as the legitimate consequence of

The following gentlemen were named as members of the National Executive Committee for the States represented: Amos L Hubbard, of Indiana; John A. McCler-We are as anxious as any to see it under the sod, believe in making any super-resurrection. But we don't believe in making any super-Carpenter, of Wisconsin; and Henry M. Rice, of Minne-

# TREASURY ESTIMATES.

Incorrect statements have been put forth with regard to the estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865, which are to be submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury. The assertion that the aggregate will be its condition. There is not a man within the Union lines \$1,200,000,000 is very wide from the truth, and that fixing it at \$900,000,000 is also too large. The heaviest items are in the estimates of the War and the Nary De partments. The former foot up \$535,694,602, and the latter about \$140,000,000. If the estimates for the other Departments are the same as last year, and there is not an element of increase except a very slight ore in the item of clerical force, the aggregate will but little exceed \$700,000,000, as thus:

Civil list	\$25,000 000
Interior Department	10,000,000
War Department	535 000,000
Navy Department	
Grand total	

The total of last year's estimates, excluding those connected with the public debt, was \$342,000,000, showing a ment has the satisfaction of knowing that it has, from the decrease of \$132,000,000, from which must be deducted a few millions for the increase in the intere-t upon the publie debt. The War Department figures look to a considerable decrease of expenditure, partly in the matter of ordnance and quartermasters' stores, a surplus of these expensive articles being on hand. But the great cause of the decrease is the anticipated reduction in the numerical force of our army, in consequence of the progress that will have been made toward the suppression of the rebellion by next July. The expenses of the Navy Department, on the other hand, must necessarily increase with every ves sel added to the fleet .- Wash Corr. Tribune.

# THE THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS EXEMPTION

It was mentioned yesterday (says the Baltimore Sun) that Major Jeffrics, the Assistant Provest Marshal Gene ral for Maryland and Delaware, was present when the draft was made on Monday in the Eighth Ward of this city, and stated that the orders from Washington will permit any man drafted to commute on the payment of three bundred dollars, but that said commutation will only extend to the next draft, when the names of all those who commute will be again placed in the wheel, and they will have to take the risk of being again drawn.

This announcement of Major Jeffries is in conflict with the subjoined extract of a letter from Col. FRY, Provest Marshal General, recently published. It is addressed to Col. Nugent, one of his Assistant Marshale at New York. under date of

"WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 1, 1863. "It is not true that the State of New York is charged as with a deficiency for every cit zen who has paid the three hundred dollars commutation money, receiving no credit therefor. On the contrary, the State receives the same credit for a man who has paid the commutation as f the dr fted citizen had gone in person or furnished substitute. And, in like manner, towns which have raised the money to poy their quotas receive the same credit as if actual substitutes had been furnished; and the Poesi dont has ordered that every citizen who has paid the three thundred dollars commutation shall receive the same credit therefor as if he had furnished a substitute, and is exore-rated from the military service for the time for which he was drafted—to wit, for three years."

A few months ago the Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, a lead ing Administration member of Congress, and who, by his eminent position, ought to know the intention of the law expressed his surprise at a statement that parties paying the three hundred dollars commutation would be subject three years would clapse after the close of the war before the keeping those States in a Territorial condition would be to a second draft within three years. The subject is one of such great interest that a clear, distinct, and general decision, from the highest official source, would relieve the doubts and anxieties of thousands, and enable them to has placed some of the parties to a Congress in a position provide for every emergency .- Sun.

three days' later than those previously received. FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES.

The French Emperor, in his speech at the opening of the Corps Legislatif, made no allusion, beyond mere men tion, to the American war. Since the speech was deliver ed the official statement of the situation of the Empire. composed of reports sent in from the various Ministerial Departments, has been distributed to the members of the two chambers. In this report the following language is used in regard to this country:

"The sad previsions suggested by the exasperation of the struggle carried on during three years in the United States have been but too much realized. Blood has con-tioued to flow, while the respective situations of the belligerents do not yet allow us to anticipate a period to this terrible crisis.

"In presence of such an accumulation of ruins, and such a sacrifice of life in a struggle bitherto fruitless, we have feit profound regret that the proposition which we made a: London and at St. Petersburgh, to unite in provoking an armistice, was not accepted. Compelled to renounce that project by a double refusal, we have, however, declared that our desire to contribute to the re-establishment of peace in any form would not be the less lively and We have given proof of this by suggesting the dea of substituting for the project of an amicable intervention of the maritime Powers the expedient of direct essages between the Government of the United States and the Confederates of the South. This new attempt has

not been more fortunate than the preciding.
"From that time we have had nothing left but to follow out the line of conduct sdopted ever since the beginning of this war by the Government of the Emperor. This we have striven to do with scrupulous care under all circumstances. We have remained neutral and well-disposed, although it has often been difficult for us to reconcile this art of our duties towards our fellow-countrymen. Inde-endently of the sufferings which, in our departments, are the consequence of the American crisis, hostilities on the territory of the Union itself have occasioned considerable etriment and loss to French residents. They have often had occasion to make just complaints of the abusive pro trymen must understand that their interests, like those of other foreigners, cannot claim an exceptional security in the midst of the tumult of arms, and that in such cases al ordinary guarantees necessarily lose something of their efficacy. Moreover, a state of war imposes inevitable fet-ters on the commerce of neutrals. If the progress of iberal doctrines tends to relax them it cannot wholly suppress them. The Cabinet of Washington has been abl satisfy itself that we have made, in our reciamations, large allowance for these difficulties. But the Govern ment of the Emperor cannot disguise its pain at seeing so many aggrieved interests, well deserving of its care, making vain appeal for protection.

In the same document the object which the French Goreinment aimed at in Mexico is declared to be very near its final accomplishment. The report says:

"The Emperor's Government is on the point of attain ing the object which it proposed to itself when it displayed the flag of France on the shores of Mexico. The success of our arms, by rendering the country free to dispose of itself, has confirmed the hopes which we founded in the good sense of the Mexican nation. The capture of Puebla has become a new title of glory for our heroic army. and the acclamation which greeted it in entering Mexic have loudly testified that our soldiers were received there

"The Assembly of Notables has pronounced that Mexi co could only expect regeneration from a monarchical in-stitution. It also at the same time designated to the Mexican nation the Prince whom political circumstance appeared to ourselves to indicate as most preferable The expression of these wishes, inspired by a just confidence in the high and brilliant qualities of him to whom they were addressed, has been favorably received, with the sole reserve that the whole nation should be called on to ratify the patriotic and spontaneous impulse which decided the sending of the mission charged to offer the crows of Mexico to the Archduke Maximilian This is how we a our part, had understood the bearing of the resolution of the Assembly. Whatever might be the authority of the influential men who composed it, their decisions, in our opinion, to become definite, must receive from the population a more explicit sanction. We congratulate our selves on secure our ideas shared by the eminent Prin

whem Mexico calls to inaugurate its new destinies.
"The fortune of France and the blood of her soldier. belong to France only. An evident and imperious French interest could therefore alone determine the Emperor' Government to engage in an undertaking of which it had beforehand weighed the sacrifices and difficulties. It has moreover, foreseen the salvation of Mexico as a possible consequence of the military expedition to which it was constrained. The public feeling of the country and the wisdom of the Archduke Maximilian justify all our hopes in this matter. In an early future we expect to receive rom the new Government of Mexico the guarantee which have been wanting to our interests under all the Governments which preceded it. For the moment, imortant questions necessarily remain to be settled as concerns ourseives; for the military result of our expedition has only prepared the ground for ulterior negotiations The Emperor's Government will devote all its attention to

# THE POLISH QUESTION.

In reference to the Polish complication, after exhibiting the failure of the negotiations between the three Powers and Russia, the report says:

"Notwithstanding the little success of the diplomatic intervention of the three Powers, the Emperor's Governoment in which the Polish question was brought forward, in the measure of its rights and duties towards England. to the painful spectacle of the struggle which is going on Poland, it loses sight of none of the great interests which are connected with that conflict. It will maintain its ac oord with England and Austria, and it cannot believe that the union of the Cabinets, in an affair so worthy of their solicitude, must remain sterile. We have not, however, the pretension to impose our solutions on the Powers interested as much or even more directly than ourselves in the settlement of the existing difficulties. In a question essentially European it is neither in conformity with our bligations or our rights to meur slone a responsibility which it is the duly of all to partake.'

# THE PROPOSED EUROPEAN CONGRESS.

The French and English journals generally discuss the roposition of Napoleon for a European Congress. One of the French journals, which has been used to convey the sentiments of the Emperor to the world, has placed the question of a Congress upon three issues, into one of which t must resolve itself, and it has alluded to the course which France would probably adopt with regard to each. The writer (M. Laguerronnière) puts the case thus:

Either the Powers will all, without exception, conform to the Emperor's views, and at once accept the proposal for a diplomatic conference; or some only will accept; or, again, all refuse. In the event of all the Powers accepting the invitation-

which, however, is too brill ant an anticipation to be in-dulged in, even by the writer himself—" France will have obtained a bloodless victory which will serve the cause of ivilization without any cost to bumanity, and complete the work of establishing peace on the principles of right.' Should some only accept the invitation, "the Congress will be impossible, but France will have prepared the way for alliances which may some day assist in carrying out the policy she has adopted, and the attempt will at all events be a resting place until the Powers be forced, by omplications which are inevitable, to have recourse to a

Should all 'the sovereigns refuse, "France would suffer complete isolation, which, however, would be dangerous others, not to her, for once free to act, she would sub ordinate her policy to her interests and calmly wait with the certainty that it would depend on her alone to modify or keep down the equilibrium of Europe under the preseure o her grandeur;

The English journals generally oppose any participation by England in the Congress. The London Daily News says:

"The British Government cannot be expected to em back on a pelicy of adventure. We ought to know, among other things, whether any lumitation of the subject of dis cussion will be admitted, and what is its principle. We ought to know, moreover, what will be held to be the position before the Congress of a Power unwilling to make the encrifices which may be required of it to exact, and others in a position to yield, concessions, the

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

The steamer Arabia, arrived at New York, brings files of English journals to the 14th instant, being three days' later than those previously received. Congress, she is not to be asked to give any thing. The difficulty will arise entirely out of the situation of other The English Government certainly cannot attribute to the Congress power to override the rights of sov-reeign States, and if the intention to do so exists, and the combinations are prepared beforehand, we shall do better

#### THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S LETTER.

The Paris Moniteur of the 11th instant publishes the letter of the Emperor of the French to the Sovereigns of Europe proposing a Congress. The Moniteur prefaces the document with the remark that the French Government had not intended such an early publication in that journal, but as the copy addressed to the German Confede ration had appeared in a Frankfort journal, the motive for any further postponement of it no longer existed. The following is the full text of the letter:

Most high and very illustrious Princes, Sovereigns, and Free Cives composing the Most Serene Confederation of

'In presence of the events which arise and press each day, I deem it indispensable to make known my whole mind to the Sovereigns to whom is confided the destiny of

Whenever profound shocks have unsettled the bases and displaced the boundaries of States, solemn transactions have taken place in order to co-ordinate the new elements effected. Such has been the object of the treaty of West phalia in the seventeenth century, and of the negotiations of Vienna in 1815. It is on this latter basis that the political edifice of Europe now reste; and yet—you are not unawate of it—it is crumbling on all sides. "If we consider attentively the situation of different

countries, it is impossible not to recognise that on almost all points the treaties of Vienna are destroyed, modified, disowned, or menaced. Hence duties without regulation, rights without title, and pretensions without restraint; danger the more to be dreaded, inasmuch as the improvements produced by civilization, which has united peoples one with another by the reciprocity of material interests, would make war still more destructive.

"Here is matter for serious meditation. Let us not

wait, in order to come to a resolution, till sudden and irr s stible events disturb our judgment and draw us, in spite of ourselves, into opposite directions.

oresent, and to secure the future, in a Congress.
"Called to the throne by Providence and the will of the Freech people, but trained in the school of adversity, it is, perhaps, less allowable for me than another to ignore the rights of sovereigns and the legitimate aspirations of peopies. Thus I am ready, without a preconcerted system, to carry into an International Congress the spirit of moderation and justice ordinarily the portion of those who have endured so many various trials.

"If I take the initiative in this overture I do not yield to an impulse of vanity; but, as I am a sovereign to whom the most ambitious projects are attributed, I have it at heart to prove by this frank and loyal step that my sole object is to arrive, without a shock, at the pseification of

"In case the princes, allies, and friends of France should deem it suitable ts enhance by their presence the authority of the deliberations, I should be proud to offer them my cordial hospitality.

"Europe would perhaps see some advantage in the capi-

tal whence the signal for subversions has so many times issued becoming the seat of conferences destined to lay

fore, most high and very illustrious princes, sovereigns, fore, most high and very illustrious princes, sovereigns, and free cities composing the most serene Confederation of Germany, I pray God to have you in His holy and worthly protection.

The property of the country, and that I am sure we but followed the wistes of the country, to maintain a strict watch and impartial neutrality. [Leud cheers.]

In the East also scenes of a lamentable character are thy protection.

"Written at Paris, November 4, in the year of grace Napoleon.

"Countersigned, Drouyn De L'Huys."

# MILITARY STRENGTH OF THE NATION.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun has, with the permission of Mr Kennedy, of the Census lation the following interesting statistics on the subject of the natural increase of fighting men in the United States:

"When a population has reached nearly its permanent condition, as in Europe and in the old States of America one-fifth of the total population is still found to represent nearly the number of males between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. But the emigrating ages are nearly allied to the military ages; and in the newly settled States of the West the proportion of fighting men is accordingly greater than in the Atlantic States. Beginning at the East and proceeding westward the proportion of white males from eighteen to forty-five to the white population is, in Maine 195 per cent.; New York, 20.8; Illinois, 221; Minnesota, 23 8; California, 47 14 Virginia, 18.7; South Carolina, 18.9; Arkansas, 20 1; Texas, 21 9.

total of white males between the ages of eigh teen and forty five in all the States (seconded included) and in the Territories and District of Columbia appears, by the census tables of 1860, to be 5,624,065. During the year 1861 about 277,500 white males reached and passed the age of eighteen, and 128,600 arrived at and passed th age of forty-five, leaving a difference of 148,900. This jatter number, when diminished by natural deaths, and in-creased by the accessions from immigration, will evident ly express the total increase of the military population (whites) during 1861. About 140,000 is estimated as the lear increase of fighting population in 1861. The number of such of course increases with augmented population in the aggregate, but that of this country has not been inby immigration since the war began to the extent that existed before.

"From these data it seems pretty clear that more per sons are annually put hors du combat (killed or perma nently disabled) by the war than the military forces are augmented by the natural increase of fighting population."

# INTERNAL REVENUE.

The receipts of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, from its creation to June 30, 1863, the end of the last fiscal year, were \$37,000,000. The Commissioner estimates the receipts during the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1864, if the law remains unchanged, at \$80,000,000. It is thought to be probable that recommendations will be of paroled prisoners, captured at Vickburg and elsewhere. made to Congress to amend the law, with a view to the without releasing any of our s ldiers held by them. But increase of the revenue, the receipts having fallen so far below the \$150,000,000 anticipated.

# CAUSE FOR ANXIETY AND ALARM.

The Springfield Republican thinks the numerical consideration of the elections, on the interpretation given to of war will be given up. The faith of the Government them by the radicals, a cause of auxiety and alarm rather pledged to these officers and troops that they shall be than for gratulation and confidence. If we could believe protected, and it cannot and will not abando that one hundred and eighty-seven thousand voters in who has been called on to defend the flag of his country Obis-thirty-reven thousand more than the Democratic and thus exposed to the bazards of war. vote last year-were really against the war, and ready either to assent to the dissolution of the Union or its reconstruction, on the base condition of yielding to the rebel be a most portentous one. Yet that is just what four-fifths of the Republican press say, and what five sixths of the Republican party [profess to] believe. Such is the ties hey have so basely threatened. consequence of false teaching and partisan intolerance. Chicago Post

# LIEUT GEN. POLK.

Lieut Gen Polk, of the Confederate army, has been acquitted of all biame in the Chickamauga mismanagement. The following is a copy of the letter written to him by Gen. Jeffersen Davis :

# ATLANTA, (GA.) OCTOBER 29.

Lieut Geo. Polk, Atlanta, Ga.
General: After an examination into the causes and circumstances attending your being relieved from com-mand with the army commanded by Gen. Bragg, I have arrived at the conclusion that there is nothing to justify a court-martial or court of inquiry, and I therefore dismiss application,

Your appointment to a new field of duty, alike impor tant and difficult, is the best evidence of my appreciation of your past services and expectation of your future

I am, very truly and respectfully, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

#### AMERICAN AFFAIRS IN ENGLAND.

We find in our English files the speech of C. P. VIL-JERS, member of Parliament, on the foreign policy of the British Government, made on the 9th instant at Wolverhampton. Mr. Villiers defended at length the policy of con-intervention, and said in conclusion:

"Non-intervention was the great household principle of

minding your own business, applied to nations at large, where it was as useful to be observed. He only wished that forbearance could be carried still further, and that nations would be somewhat more careful in the language hey employ towards each other. It arose frequently from ignorance quite unwarrantable, and centures were often unreasenable in those who cast them. He thought hard measures had been dealt out both to the Federals and the Southerners in this country. The most bitter reproaches bad been cast upon the President for desiring to retain the Union, and against the Southerners for desiring to retain the Union, and against the Southerners for desiring to retain what they called their property. Yet he could not help cemembering that for the first ten years that he was in Parliament, one of the prominent questions of the day was the repeal of the Union with Ireland. But he never remembered one Parliament, and the property of the Union with Ireland. nembered one English member who was for it, or one that would not have voted any means to maintain it, or any Minister that would not have been called a traitor who had thought of yielding it; and he did not know to what length they would not have gone to retain the Union had the eminent man who sgitated that question so perseveringly not died. Again, for some years before he went into Parliament he remembered well the kind of language that used to be held towards Lord Brougham and other sought to emancipate the negroes that belonged to Englishmen, and he doubted if it was very different from that which the Southerners addressed to the abolitionists now They, however, as Engli-hmen, would have been indignant if other nations had interfered with their internal disputes, and not allowed them to settle those questions as it seemed best to them to do-and which, in fact, they did to their own entire satisfaction. Why, then, should the Americans not be allowed to settle their affairs in the way they think right, without being so severely condemned by other peo

LORD PALMERSTON ON THE AMERICAN REBELLION. By the Cape Race steamer we had a lew lines of speech made by the British Premier at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London; on the 9th instant, in the course of which he alluded to American affairs. The following is a

fuller report of his remarks:

There have been occasions when it was the lot of those which control our judgment and draw us, in the of ourselves, into opposite directions.

"I come, therefore, to propose to you to regulate the seent, and to secure the future, in a Congress.

"I come, therefore, to propose to you to regulate the secure, and to secure the future, in a Congress.

"I come, therefore, to propose to you to regulate the secure, and to secure the future, in a Congress. grow into a cloud of war, yet we see on all sides, in the far West and in the distant East, struggles going on of the most lamentable character, and scenes enacted which make us shudder for humanity, and excite our deep conpass on for the countries in which they are occurring [Hear, hear.]
In the far West we see a nation of the same race, the

same language, the same religion, the same manners and interature as ourselves, split into two, slaughtering each other by hundreds of thousands, and carrying on a contes the result of which it is impossible to foresee and the end of which now, after more than two years duration, he would be a bold man indeed who ventured to predict

[Hear, bear ] Lamenting that state of things, the Government of this country have felt it their duty not to yield either to the entreaties or the objurgations of the one party or the other. [Cheers.] Blaudishments on the one side and threats on the other have equally been fruitless to affect our course [Renewed ch ers ]

We have felt it our duty to abstsin from taking any par in that deplorable conflict. If, indeed, we had thought it "I take this occasion to renew to you the assurances of the sincer attachment and lively interest which I take in the prosperity of the States of the Confederation. Where- fore, most high and ware illustrated by the states of the Confederation. Where- the prosperity of the States of the Confederation. Where- the prosperity of the States of the Confederation. Where- the prosperity of the States of the Confederation. so holy an object. [Cheer.]
But we felt that our interference would have been vain

taking place. We there see on the one side a barbarous system of deliberate extermination carried out, and on the other side revenge venting itself in acts of murder and asopinions of civilized Europe in a joint remonstrance against that which we thought unjust. These remonstrances have failed. We have done our duty; and we can only hope that those who have the conduct of affairs in the Russian Bureau, obtained from the forthcoming volume on poputhat peace may be restored upon terms of equity and jus-

tice in that unfortunate country. [Hear.]
While things abroad look ill, and much misery and ca lamity are sustained, this country forms a happy exception to that which seems to be the prevailing condition of na-tions. We have been blessed by Providence with an abundant has vest; we have been preserved by the conduct of the Government and the sense of the country from the misfortunes of war; our population are contented and loyal, and they feel that for a long course of years the Legislature has been occupied in remedying grievances, in removing defects from our laws, in awceping away those ob-structions which the less enlightened policy of former times had placed in the way of the productive industry of the nation. By all these means, I am happy to say, I be-lieve that the commercial and material prosperity of the country has reached a point which it never attained at any former period. [Hear, hear.]

# THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

The following letter, addressed by the Solicitor of the War Department to a gentleman in Boston, discloses officially the causes of a cessation in the exchange of prisoners. It appears that the greatest difficulty in the way is the refusal of the Confederates to exchange the negro soldiers and their officers :

Washington, November 20, 1863. DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 17th has been received, which you inquire whether any documents are now ac cessible or will be likely soon to be published by our Government relating to the exchange of prisoners of war, and you justly remark that the subject excites a deep in-terest in consequence of the sufferings of our men in

The correspondence published in the Richmond papers does not, it is thought, present the matter in its true light In a few days the entire correspondence will be made

public here by authority.

There are several serious difficulties in the way of con tinuing an exchange of prisoners. One is the bad faith of emptory refusal by the enemy to exchange colored soldiers and their white officers upon any terms whatever. It is well known that they have threatened to sell colored captured soldiers into slavery, and to hang their white officers.

savage cruely of slave-masters a single officer or soldier It has been suggested that exchanges might go on until

all except colored troops and their white officers have been given up. But if this were allowed the rebels would relieved of the burden of maintaining our leaders the supremacy they are fighting for, the fact would troops, but they would get back their own men, retaining fear of retaliation, carry into execution the inhuman cruel-The President has ordered that the stern law of retalia-

tion shall without hesitation be enforced to avenge the death of the first Union soldier, of whatever color, whom the enemy shall in cold blood destroy or sell into slavery. All other questions between us may be postponed future settlement, but the fair exchange of diere and of their white officers will be insisted on by the Government before another rebel soldier or officer will be exchanged.

The sufferings of our men in Richmond are the subject of deep regret and sympathy here, and there has been no want of effort to afford all possible relief. WILLIAM WHITING

Very truly, yours,

ICE IN SEA-SICKNESS -- Ice is recommended as a surremedy as well as a prophylactic against sea sickness. A traveller states that he has tried it himself with success, and that if the stewards of steamers would keep a supply of emon water ices on board they would profit themselves and render great service to their passengers. i be vessels employed by the Government in carrying troops from one point to another along the Atlantic coast ought to be provided with ice, and the men would not be rendered unfit for duty by a three or four days' passage.

# WASHINGTON NEWS AND GOSSIP.

From Washington Despatches to the Republican Press

The Army of the Potomac is fairly under way at last, and it may not now be improper to reveal the fact that ite base line is cut. All the depots on the railroad from Alexandria have been broken up, the rolling stock has been brought in, and the moving columns have their supplies with them. Before they have eaten their ten days' rations they must find new stores of supply on the Fredericksburg and Richmond railroad, or at the old White House Landing, on the James river. There can be no excuse for dilatory movement, and it now remains to be seen whether Lee will give them "a fight or a race"

#### THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The forthcoming report of the Land Office will contain nuch valuable information which will astound our enemies across the water. It will show that while we have been carrying on the war for the suppression of the rebelion there has been an unusually large "settlement" on our public lands. Not only in the Northwestern States, but in the mining regions of Colorado, Idahoe and New Mexico, large entries of public lands have been made, and the grain producing area of the Republic has been largely extended. This is a very gratifying and unexpected result. It will also be seen by the report on immigration, prepared at the State Department, that the war losses have been more than balanced by the influx of laborers from abroad.

CHAPLAINS TO CONGRESS. Mr. Horace Greeley and other friends of Rev. John erpont are urging the election of that gentleman as chaplain either to the Senate or the House. Mr. Pierpont came here, it will be remembered, as chaplain to the reg ment raised by Hon. Henry Wilson, but finding himself unable to stand the fatigue of camp life, he accepted a clerkship in the Treasury Department. His health is good, and his intellect is as clear as it was nearly forty years ago, when he gave as a toast at a Fourth of July dinner in Boston: " The spiritual and the carnal weapons of our Father's welfare-Bibles and Bullets-

In Freedom's fight both tell, for many a head. That to heaven's light bows not will bow to kindred lead."

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-RESTORATION. There are good grounds for believing that the President rill embody in his message to Congress the main features of his plan for the restoration of the loyal people of the rebel States to the blessings and privileges of the Union. and that the policy thus announced will, as was telelgraphed you last week, be in accordance with and furtherance of the proclamation of freedom. We are assured that the suggestions embraced in this portion of the message will be generally considered by loyal men to be eminently just, wise, and effective - Tribune.

#### THE FINANCIAL ESTIMATES.

We are enabled to approximate still more closely to the estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865, which will be embraced in the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury. Those for the Interior Department will be slightly reduced in the expenses of some of the Bureaus. But this will be balanced by the increase in the estimates for the State Department. The aggregate estimates for all the Departments, except the War and Navy, will therefore be about the same as last year; that is to say, round numbers \$36,000,000. The estimates for the interest on the public debt, which were over \$33,000,000 ast year, have not yet been completed, but cannot be expected to fall far below \$65,000,000 or \$70,000,000. The Navy Department estimates are a fraction over \$142.

000,000. The footings will, therefore, stand thus: War Department......\$535 000,000 

Grand total.....\$7:3,000,000 The aggregate will probably fall considerably belo above footing and certainly cannot reach \$800,000,000. The principal on which most of the additional interest is to be paid, is, of course, the five-twenty loan. The interest on certificates of indebtedness cannot but be considerably less than last year, both because it is no longer, after March 3, payable in gold, and because the issue is now, and has for months been, much less than during the corresponding period last year. We have omitted, and are inclined to think that the Secretary will omit, from the table of estimates the 7.30 loan, which falls due August 19 and October 1, 1864, for the reason that holders are already rapidly converting it into the six per cent. bonds of 1881, and are likely as the day of redemption approaches to exercise the faculty of conversion to a still greater extent. The difficulty of estimating the amount of these short bonds, which it will be necessary to redeem, is increased by the uncertainty as to whether they are to be paid in gold or greenbacks-a question which it would be a wide departure from the usual course of Mr. Chase to de-

#### cide before he is obliged to make a decision .- Tribune. THE TREASURY REPORT.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the condition of the finances is now in the hands of the public printer. It will be much larger than heretofore, and contain various interesting tables on subjects not before embedied in such documents. The general arrangement will be much improved. To this report will be added the reports, severally, of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the Comptroller of the Currency.

# THE NEW PRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

The various rumors of the withdrawal of the new fraccional currency are without foundation in fact. The cur-rency is duly i-sued, and preparations are nearly completed to issue it in such quantities as the wants of the public may require. The objection to the paper splitting, which was raised sgainst the Treasury paper specially, but which is said to be equally true as to all paper, has produced a good result, for it has stimulated the Treasury to make a paper which cannot be spiit-a desideratum never before strained. Such a paper is now making for the Treasury, and all the issues will be printed upon it as soon as a suff cient quantity can be manufactured.

# COL. BELGER DISMISSED THE SERVICE.

Col. James Belger, Chief Quartermaster at Baltimore, was tried before a c urt-martial upon charges of neglect of duty, and fraudulent conduct in hiring transports, and in the purchase of supplies, and found "not guilty." The court added, in explanation, that although in some instances Col. Belger appeared to have purchased coal at higher rates than cash market prices, yet, considering the and of funds provid d by the Government for paymasters, and the urgency of orders under which he was frequently called to act, and the consequent necessity for imu action, no criminality was attached thereto. The Secretary of War, in reviewing the case, set forth

that Col. Belger was for nearly a year connected with A. C. Hall and Coblens in large business transactions, and that he did not deem the duty assigned to him so great as to compel him to ask to be relieved from any portion of or to have the services of an efficer to assist him; that Col. Beiger paid A. C. Hall, or Coblens and Hall, forty and fifty per cent. more than Hall and Coblens paid for the coal to all dealers of the same city, who delivered it on board of Government vessels by Hall or Coblen's orders; and that there transactions reached an aggregate of than one hundred thousand dollars a year; that the kind of money he received was certificates of indebtedness, the same as used by other quartermasters, and at the highest rate of discount on them. Col. Belger's purchases were at rates unaccountably high; and after declaring that Col. Beiger was guitty of gross neglect and violation of duty in these transactions, the Secretary disapproves of the fluding of the court, and declares Col. Beiger, by order of the President, dishenorably dismissed from the United States

Mr REVAN TYSON, of North Carolina, author of the tract entitled "The Institution of Slavery, religiously and morally considered," and for some time past a clerk in the Treasury Department, bas, for the purpose of devoting his time to the study and elucidation of political subjects, 19sigued his situation in the Department.